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The CIA Vs. the FBI

CIA officials are pressing Attorney General William French Smith to order FBI agents and Justice Department prosecutors to take lie-detector tests before seeing top-secret data. Smith has made no decision, but the betting is that he will decline rather than risk a revolt among his troops. Many Justice and FBI officials, priding themselves on high standards of professional discretion, regard the CIA request as an insult, and a gratuitous one: Justice hasn't been blamed for any of the security leaks that have upset the Reagan Administration. Besides, FBI agents and Justice lawyers generally distrust polygraphs, which the CIA uses routinely.